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March 14, 2000 LB 972, 1003, 1023, 1399
 LR 326-327

SENATOR CUDABACK: Senator Suttle, you have about four and a half minutes.

SENATOR SUTTLE: Thank you, Mr. President. Thank you, Senator Bohlke. Teachers in this state work hard and they also work for many hours. This bill follows the maxim, never put off until tomorrow what can be referred to a committee and delayed endlessly. Apologies to the Earl of Chesterfield for that. That quote comes from an "Ask Marilyn" column in Parade Magazine, in our Sunday newspaper. In that column, on February 27th of this year, a teacher, Barb Wormington (phonetic), from Omahr, asked Marilyn what the most accurate way to calculate and compare teachers salaries. Marilyn advised that comparisons should be made to other occupational groups within the state of Nebraska. For instance, we should look at the police earnings, the postal workers, nurses and such. A research associate at UNO made these comparisons from the latest figures available, albeit the 1990 census, which I have distributed to the body to look at. With this, the 1339 Task Force then we can take the latest figures for the year 2000 and make those comparisons and see if they have improved or have stayed the same or have widened. And I think that is an important thing to look at. We are also asked to look at the cost of living and all the things that are associated with comparing our state's teachers with other state's teachers. This task force is going to have to work very hard, and it's going to be a working task force, not a figurative task force. And the chair of it will be Senator Bohlke, and she has never shied away from really hard work ever before. So I think it is in her interest as being her legacy, as she leaves the Legislature, to get accurate data so that we can make the best possible decision. Thank you, Mr. President.

SENATOR CUDABACK: Thank you, Senator Bohlke and Senator Suttle. (Visitors introduced.) Mr. Clerk, items for the record?

CLERK: Mr. President, new resolutions. (Read LR 326-327 by title for the first time.) Senator Bourne, an amendment to LB 972; Senator Jensen, to LB 1023; Senator Wickersham, to LB 1003. I have a Reference Report; hearing notices from Education and Transportation. (Legislative Journal pages 1056-1058.)